

NSB - 1001

AN ACT

To

Establish a Department of Culture and Heritage

Introduced

January 24, 2024

By Senator Vera Cromrich

Be it enacted by the National Senate of the Republic of Soundland,

Section 1: Short Title:

This Act shall be cited as the “Department of Culture and Heritage Establishment Act”.

Section 2: Intent

The intent of this act is to establish a Department of Culture and Heritage responsible for the promotion and preservation of Soundlandian culture and heritage, and the funding and development of the arts, and to oversee government policy regarding such subjects among connected matters.

Section 3: Definitions

In this Act:

(a) “The Department”, unless otherwise stated, refers to the proposed executive department of the Republic of Soundland cited as the Department of Culture and Heritage.

(a) “Secretary” refers to the Secretary of the Department of Culture and Heritage.

Section 4: Establishment

There is hereby established an executive department of the government of the Republic of Soundland, to be called the Department of Culture and Heritage, of which shall be led by a Secretary of Culture and Heritage, appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the National Senate.

Section 5: Powers and Duties of the Department

- (a) The Department has the power to establish and operate state-owned museums and other sites of cultrail, historical and natural knowledge .
- (b) The Department shall have the power to establish grant programs to support cultural and artistic projects, organizations and individuals associated with the Republic of Soundland.
- (c) The Department shall develop and implement national strategies, and establish initiatives, in the interest of promoting and furthering Soundlandian culture, identity and history and the arts, and shall have the power to organize and fund public events and projects with the purpose of such.
- (d) The Department shall have the power to designate buildings and sites as having historical and cultural significance and shall have the power to maintain and preserve such sites.
- (e) The Department shall have the power to operate and manage national parks and monuments as set aside by the National Senate.
- (f) The Department shall have the power to assist in the funding of sites of historical or cultural significance that are not already operated by the Department.
- (g) The Department shall have the power to establish and maintain cultural exchange programs with other nations cultural agencies and institutions on its own initiative.
- (h) The Secretary of the Department, and in addition any person as delegated by the Secretary, has the authority to appoint individuals to represent the Republic of international cultural forums and organizations.

- (i) The Department shall ensure compliance with international cultural treaties and conventions ratified by the Republic of Soundland.
- (j) The Department shall otherwise oversee, and assist and advise in cross governmental policy relating to Soundlandian culture, national identity, heritage and the arts.
- (k) The Department shall have the power to accredit cultural and heritage institutions in the Republic of Soundland.
- (l) The Department shall have the power to create councils to oversee areas of its work and the approval of grants, including those with members from civil society and the community at large.
- (m) The Department shall have the power to keep records and archives relating to Soundlandian culture, history and civil society, and other connected matters.
- (n) The Department shall have the power to create and enforce appropriate secondary legislation for the effective implementation of this act.

Section 6: Severability

If any provision of this act, or the application of provision to any person or circumstance, is held by a court to be invalid, the remainder of this act, or the application of the provision other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected.

Section 7: Date of Effect

This act shall take effect three days after the date of its enactment.